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Germany (Soviet Zone)

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COUNTRY

REPORT NO.

TOPIC

Military Information from the Dessau and Naumburg Areas.

EVALUATION ☐ 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED ☐

DATE OF CONTENT 18 to 27 October 1951 25X1 25X1

DATE OBTAINED ☐ DATE PREPARED 20 November 1951REFERENCES ☐

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE) 25X1

REMARKS

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1. Source observed a train going from the direction of Magdeburg toward Dessau (M 52/E 17) at 5 p.m. on 21 October 1951. It carried an undetermined number of troops with about 30 motor vehicles ☐ and 11 field howitzers. Source observed another troop train on the same route during the night of 22 October. It carried troops with trucks and field howitzers. The two trains were again observed when they returned empty toward Magdeburg ☐ (1)

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2. The following road movements were observed between 22 and 27 October:

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Date and Time	Composition of Columns and Direction of Movement	
22 October	11 JS tanks, 11 SP guns, an undetermined number of armored reconnaissance cars and trucks carrying troops, ammunition and equipment and towing light AT guns and field kitchens, moving from Rossau toward Zerbst. The vehicles <input type="checkbox"/> and the tanks carried prefabricated sections of corduroy roads.	25X1
4:30 p.m.	About 25 trucks, including <input type="checkbox"/> moving from Rossau toward Zerbst.	25X1
23 October 12:30 p.m.	About 30 trucks, <input type="checkbox"/> carrying troops and billeting equipment; towing 57-mm AT guns; and moving from Rossau toward Zerbst.	25X1
4:30 p.m.	About 30 trucks, <input type="checkbox"/> towing AT guns; and moving from Rossau toward Zerbst.	25X1
5 p.m.	20 trucks, <input type="checkbox"/> towing AT guns; and moving from Rossau toward Zerbst.	25X1
5:15 p.m.	About 10 rocket launchers, <input type="checkbox"/> and others <input type="checkbox"/> moving from Rossau toward Zerbst.	25X1

CLASSIFICATION

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 No Change in Class. ☐  
☐ Declassified  
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(2) The columns observed in the Dessau-Zerbst area between 22 and 27 October 1951 included about 50 tanks and armored reconnaissance cars, 50 AT guns and 180 trucks of the 21st Gds Mecc Div; trucks with 30 AT guns of the 7th Gds Tank Div; and 3 columns with 30 pontoons each of motor transport units of both the 21st Gds Mecc Div and the GDFG. The pontoons are believed to belong to a GDFG pool for bridge-building equipment which, according to previous reports, may be located in the Pioneer kaserne, Hosslau. The rail and road movements, reported in paragraphs 1 and 2, indicate that a river-crossing exercise at the level of one reinforced division was held in the Dessau-Zerbst area at the end of October 1951.

(3) Vehicles of the unidentified engineer battalion of the 57th Gds Itz Rifle Div. According to previous information by the same source, the battalion is believed to have returned to the barracks installation on Flemminger Weg, Naumburg, from Hsd Keesen during the first half of October 1951.

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(4) Sections of the Hq XVIII Gds Itz Rifle Corps and, for the most part, of the 25th Gds Mecc Div, which was last confirmed [redacted] at [redacted] on 6 October 1951.

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